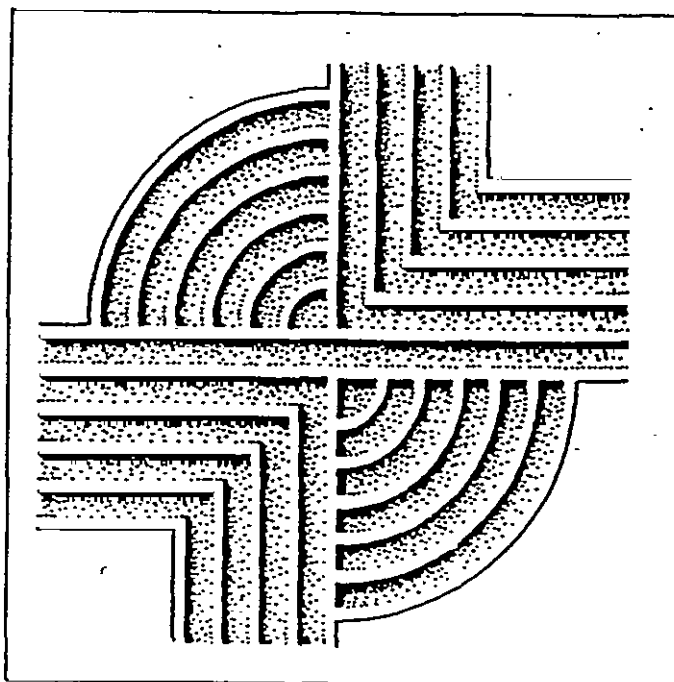


**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SURVEY OF THE BB NORTH OR SEABROOK TRACT,
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, [BEAUFORT COUNTY],
SOUTH CAROLINA**



RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 25

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE BB NORTH
OR SEABROOK TRACT, HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

Prepared For:

Mr. P. Carlton Knoll
P. Carlton Knoll Interests, Inc.
148 Spanish Wells Road, Suite 2G
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Prepared By:

Michael Trinkley

Chicora Research Contribution 25

Chicora Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 8664
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

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Introduction

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. P. Carlton Knoll, developer of the 43 acre BB North or Seabrook tract. This tract is situated on Hilton Head Plantation, adjacent to Skull Creek, on Hilton Head Island in Beaufort County. The tract is bounded to the west by Skull Creek, to the north by a marsh tributary of Skull Creek, to the east by previously developed lands, and to the south by both marsh and the Tailbird tract, currently being developed. The property is roughly bisected by a dirt road which leads to Seabrook Landing, shown on the 1956 USGS Parris Island, SC topographic map. A portion of the property, largely unidentified prior to these investigations, was known to have been used as a dump for spoil material from other construction projects on Hilton Head Plantation.

The development plan for the Seabrook tract are not currently complete, although the property is expected to be developed for single family dwellings, with accompanying water, sewer, power, and road construction activities. This development activity has the potential for damaging or destroying archaeological sites and this intensive archaeological survey was conducted in order to allow the developer to obtain S.C. Coastal Council certification. This summary is intended to provide a synopsis of the preliminary archival research and the archaeological survey of the tract sufficient to allow the S.C. State Historic Preservation Office to determine the eligibility of sites for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

The historic research has been conducted at the South Carolina Historical Society, the Charleston RMC, the South Caroliniana Library, and the Beaufort RMC by Ms. Ramona Grunden and this author. The archaeological survey was conducted by the author and Ms. Elizabeth Pinckney from May 2 through May 6, 1988. Field work conditions were good and a total of 80 person hours were devoted to the study. The report preparation (including laboratory studies) was conducted by Ms. Debi Hacker and the author from May 7 through May 10, 1988.

Artifacts recovered from this study will be curated with The Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island as Accession Number 1988.-- and ARCH 668 through ARCH 793. All original field notes (including photographic materials) and archival copies will also be curated at this facility. Site numbers have been assigned by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Additional information on the

conservation of the recovered materials can be found in the section on laboratory methods.

Effective Environment

Hilton Head Island is a sea island located between Port Royal Sound to the north and Daufuskie Island to the south. The island is separated from Daufuskie by Calibogue Sound and from the mainland by Skull Creek.

Hilton Head is situated in the Sea Island section of South Carolina's Coastal Plain province. The coastal plain consists of unconsolidated sands, clays and soft limestones found from the Fall Line eastward to the Atlantic Ocean, an area representing about two-thirds of the state (Cooke 1936:1-3). Elevations on Hilton Head range from sea level to about 20 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Additional environmental information on Hilton Head is available from Trinkley (1986, 1987).

The Seabrook tract is situated on Skull Creek, about 3.5 miles northeast of U.S. 278 on the Hilton Head Plantation. It is shown on the USGS topographic map as "Seabrook Landing" and encompasses a total of 43 acres (Figure 1). The property is bounded to the west by Skull Creek and to the north and south by extensive tidal marshes. Inland, toward the east, there is previously developed property. Vegetation includes primarily a fringe of hardwoods (oaks and palmettos) around the marsh, a number of pecan trees in several localized areas, and two section of planted pines. The pecans probably represent intentional cultivation efforts, although they may be second generation trees since they exhibit no order in their occurrence. The pines are planted in an old field inland from the western marsh edge and are also found in the spoil area discussed below. All of the vegetation appears to have been established within the last 100 years.

The site's physical appearance and integrity has been affected by use as a spoil area where dredge fill from other development projects has been deposited. These investigations identified spoil covering an area of approximately 10 acres in the southwest central portion of the tract. This spoil area includes a section of active use totalling about 1.4 acres which is evidenced by spoil piles and a much larger area where the soil has been graded and pines have been planted. Fill in the graded area varies from 1.0 to 4.0 feet in depth. Based on our shovel test data, there is a strong possibility that the spoil area has had the topsoil removed. Definite conclusions are difficult because the spoil has significantly altered the natural soil profile. No clear A or Ap horizon could be detected over most of the fill area.

Elevations on the Seabrook tract vary from about 6 feet MSL

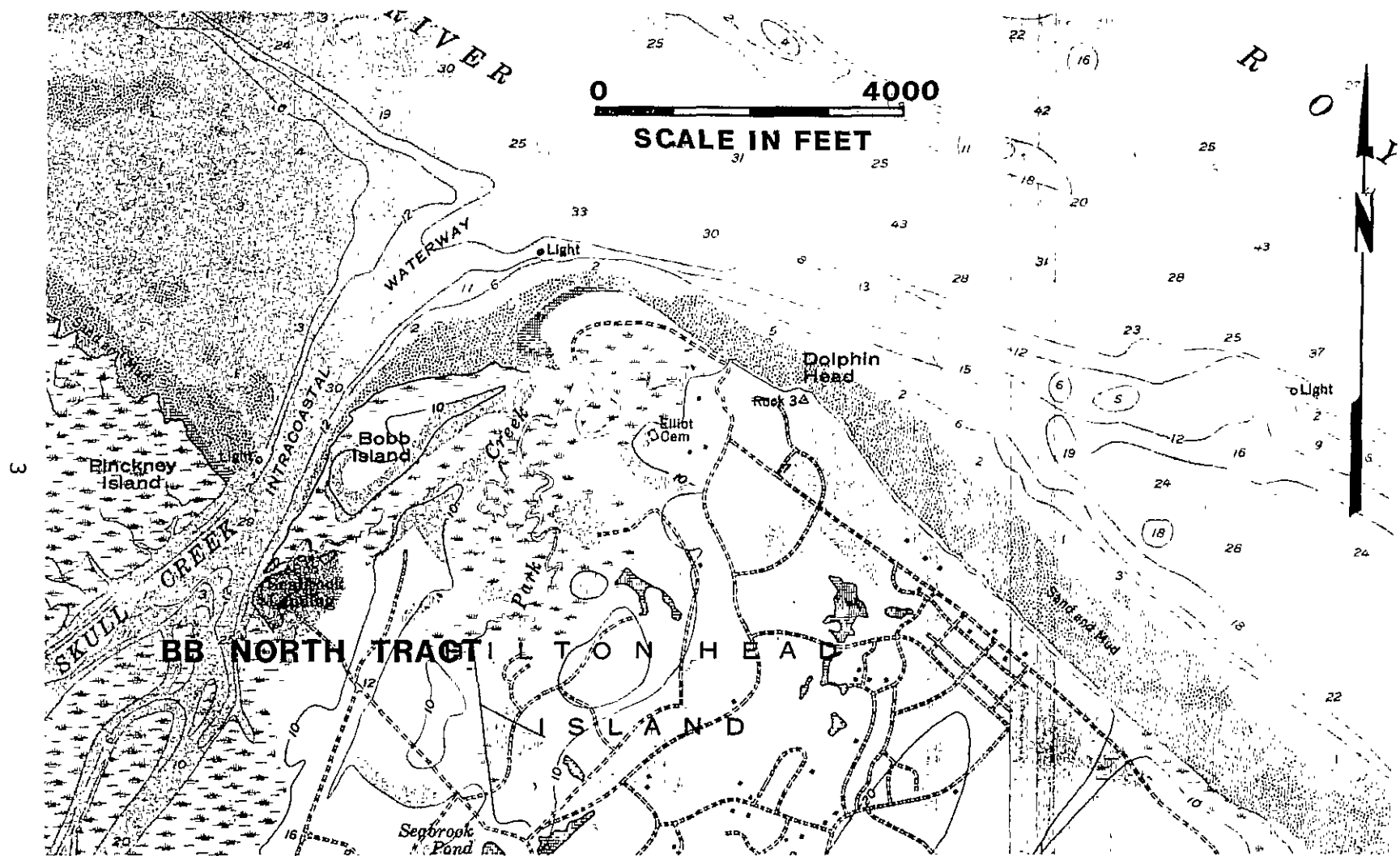


Figure 1. Portion of the Parris Island USGS map showing the BB North survey tract.

adjacent to the marsh to about 9 feet inland. The spoil area has elevations ranging from 9 to 11 feet, reflecting the large volume of spoil which has been added.

Soils in the project area are primarily the moderately well drained Seabrook and Bertie Series, although there is a small quantity of poorly drained Williman soils found as a remnant drainage which has been incorporated into a ditch system on the southwestern edge of the property and also found on a northeastern extension of the property. Both of the less well drained areas exhibit black to dark gray fine sand A horizons up to 1.5 feet in depth. At the time of this survey the soils were moist and a water table was identified in several tests at depths of about 1.3 feet. The water table is often at or near the surface of these soils (Stuck 1980:176). The Seabrook and Bertie soils evidenced deep, sandy profiles, with up to a foot of A or Ap horizon brown sand overlying a yellow sand B or C horizon. Cultural remains were consistently found in the A (or Ap) horizon or in an associated midden above the C horizon. In only one test (in the spoil area, under 4 feet of fill) was an artifact identified in the C horizon soil. Given the extensive disturbance in this area it is unlikely that the remain is indicative of deeply buried cultural remains.

The ditch network at the Seabrook tract represents both antebellum and recent drainage activity. The northwest-southeast trending ditch on the northern edge of the property probably represent a plantation activity, based on the number of size of trees growing on its accompanying dike and in the banks. Likewise, the ditch which originates at the marsh on the southern edge of the property and runs east and northeast is probably part of the original plantation drainage system. In fact, it may have separated the main house area from the cultivated fields and animal pens. The ditch, also on the southern edge of the property, which runs southeasterly, is a recent addition, probably dug within the past 20 years. A portion of a plantation dike is found on the northwestern edge, adjacent to the marsh, and is the location of the USGS "Bob" marker.

The property evidences considerable erosion along the Skull Creek face and a number of archaeological sites have been identified through sightings of remains on the beach. Michael Taylor (personal communication 1988) indicates that erosion in this area of the island is unpredictable, being associated with both boat traffic on the Atlantic Intra-coastal Water Way and the various winter storm tides. In the 1970s a number of intact bottles were recovered from the eroding marsh grass at Seabrook Landing. Based on comparisons between modern and historic maps, 20 to 50 feet of the site may have eroded since the mid-1800s.

Background Research

Several previously published archaeological studies are available for the Hilton Head area to provide background, including the Fish Haul excavation study (Trinkley 1986) and the reconnaissance level survey of Hilton Head Island for the Town of Hilton Head (Trinkley 1987). In addition, considerable survey and excavation work has been conducted on nearby Pinckney Island (Drucker and Anthony 1980; Trinkley 1981). These sources should be consulted for additional details.

Work at prehistoric sites in the area has revealed relatively small, shell and nonshell middens found almost exclusively adjacent to tidal creeks or sloughs. Few sites have been found in the interior, away from both present marsh habitats and relic sloughs. Most sites, based on previous studies, are found on excessive to moderately well drained, although a few are consistently found in areas which are poorly drained (which suggests that factors other than drainage may occasionally have determined aboriginal settlement location).

Research by South and Hartley (1980) suggests that major historic site complexes will be found on high ground adjacent to a deep water access. Plantation main houses tend to be located on the highest and best drained soils for both health and status reasons. Slave settlements tend to be located for easy access to the fields, although clearly other considerations were involved, and slave rows are often found on low, poorly drained soils.

Based on these previous findings and the known distribution of soils on the Seabrook tract, there were large areas thought to represent high archaeological potential, both along the marsh edge and also adjacent to the poorly drained soils which might represent remnant drainages.

In addition, previous archaeological research in the Seabrook area by Michie (1980) and Trinkley (1987) identified a series of seven loci representing both prehistoric and historic remains at five sites. Site 38BU323 represents collections from the erosional beach area of Seabrook Landing and scattered deposits along the marsh edge about 900 feet in either direction from the landing. Site 38BU337 represents erosional remains of tabby and brick recorded along the north edge of the tract. 38BU821 represents two small shell middens on the north edge of the property. Site 38BU822 is a small shell midden, possibly related to a military encampment. Site 38BU1149 is a number assigned to Seabrook Plantation by the Lowcountry Council of Governments (1979:84) and it essentially duplicates 38BU323.

Summaries of Hilton Head history are presented in Trinkley (1986, 1987), a popular historical account of the island is given by Holmgren (1959), and Peebles (1970) provides background on

some of the island's antebellum families. A detailed understanding of Seabrook Plantation is not yet available and this work has been hampered by the destruction of most early Beaufort land records during the Civil War and a fire which destroyed many of the early postbellum records. Some records have been located in Charleston and it is probable that additional research in Savannah will produce further information. Problems have been encountered in attempting to reconcile the contradictions in the available secondary sources (Lowcountry Council of Governments 1979:84; Holmgren 1959:132; Peeples 1970:9-10) since none provide citations. Briefly, Holmgren (1959:132) indicates that William Seabrook (Sr.) consolidated the 1600 acre plantation from smaller, Colonial period plantations sometime in the early antebellum. Specifically she mentions the Fylers, Currels, Talbirds or Talbots, and Wallises or Wallaces. The Lowcountry Council of Governments (1979:84), apparently using Peeples unpublished research, indicates that the 1600 acre plantation was purchased by William Seabrook from Mrs. Thomas Henry Barksdale in 1832. Finally, Peeples (1970:9) provides a more detailed account, suggesting that Thomas Henry Barksdale owned a 2600 acre Scull (Skull) Creek Plantation. After Barksdale's death, his widow was forced to auction off this plantation to settle legal claims by other heirs against the estate. It was at this time, according to Peeples (1970; personal communication 1988), that William Seabrook purchased 1600 acres. The remainder became the 1000 acre Cotton Hope Plantation. Included in the 1000 acres of Cotton Hope were "the tabby ruins ... originally Barksdale's Scull Creek House" (Peeples 1970:10) known as 38BU90 (recent research, however, demonstrates that 38BU90 was probably not a domestic structure and was probably not the Barksdale-Pope house). Peeples indicates that proof of this transaction is contained in the Alexander J. Lawton papers at the South Caroliniana Library. Regrettably, it has not been possible to completely settle this difference.

Although the Lawton Family papers have not been thoroughly examined, they do make reference to the Scull Creek Plantation. In fact, Lawton, as Administrator for Thomas Henry Barksdale's estate, on February 24, 1839, paid \$20 to "George Edwards for hire of his servant one month to guard Scull Creek Plantation." This same payment is elsewhere referenced as the "Hire of Hector to take charge of Scull Creek Plantation" (South Carolina Library, Alexander J. Lawton Estate Accounts, 1821-1864). Lawton entered into at least two agreements with Peter Broughton, in April 1835 and December 1835, to "take charge of the plantation of said Estate [Estate of Thomas H. Barksdale] at Scull Creek" through 1836 (South Caroliniana Library, Lawton Family Papers).

Barksdale's will can not be located in either Charleston or Beaufort, although two legal cases involving the Barksdale estate provide some information. The first case, George Edwards et al.

v. Martha S. Barksdale (Thomas Henry's widow) et al. and Henry Bona v. Martha S. Barksdale et al. (2 Hill, Eq. 184), indicates that Thomas H. Barksdale was a minor when his father, George died around 1798. George Barksdale's will provided that his estate should pass to his daughter and son, although in the case of their death, or if they fail "to have issue," the estate would go to George Edwards. George Barksdale's daughter died in 1808, but Thomas Henry came of age and the estate was surrendered to him. When he died intestate in 1832, however, he left no children. George Edwards contested Martha S. Barksdale's inheritance of some aspects. Henry Bona claimed that he was more closely related to George Barksdale than the others and that the estate should go to him, rather than to the others. The court ruled, in 1835, that most of the claims by Edwards, Bona, et al. should be dropped, although the next of kin arguments were sent back to the circuit court for a ruling.

The second case, involving the same parties as the first, but entitled George Edwards et al. v. Martha S. Barksdale (2 Hill, Eq. 416), was heard in 1836. The court ruled that all of the plaintiffs were legitimate next of kin and should be included in the provisions of the estate settlement.

Barksdale's Inventory and Appraisement was not conducted until the court cases were settled (post dating March 1, 1836). The inventory describes "The Plantation at Scull Creek, on which the Dwelling House Stands, Containing ~~2600~~ Acres, valued at 10,200." The acreage appears to have been altered and the 600 acre figure appears to be correct. Finally, the collection contains "A List of property of Est. Thomas H. Barksdale, appraised and divided by Wm. Pope, Senr., James B. Sealy, & Wm. E. Baynard, Esq. on 18 March 1836 between Mrs. M.S. Barksdale, widow, and the next of kin agreeably to an order of the Court of Equity." The next of kin (which would have included Thomas B. Bona, George Edwards, Mary Holbrook, Mrs. Coe, and Mrs. Kirk) received "The plantation at Scull Creek with Dwelling House of 600 acres" (South Caroliniana Library, Lawton Family Papers). Significantly, the 600 acre figure is again used for this plantation. It seems clear that where ever this plantation was located, it remained in the Barksdale family through 1836 and perhaps as late as 1839. Since William Seabrook died in 1836, it was not possible for him to have purchased his plantation from Barksdale widow, Martha, in 1832. It seems that the Scull Creek Plantation of Barksdale may have no significance in understanding the Seabrook tract.

A deed, dated May 23, 1833, has been located in Charleston documenting the sale of 590 acres to William Seabrook by Joseph Wallace for \$8000. The description indicates that the property was "on the island of Hilton Head ... bounded on the north by Scull Creek on the west by lands of Henry Talbird on the east by lands of Mrs. Phoebe Elliott and the south by lands of William

Pope" (Charleston RMC DB Q10, p. 74). Phoebe (or Phebe) Elliott was the wife of William Elliott and the land referenced was Myrtle Bank Plantation. William Pope was "Squire Pope" and the land to the south of Seabrook's purchase would have been Cotton Hope. This deed indicates that Seabrook's initial (and perhaps only) purchase on Hilton Head, while relatively minor, was situated between Cotton Hope and Myrtle Bank. It also indicates that at the time Seabrook made his purchase, Pope had already acquired Cotton Hope. While it is possible that Seabrook acquired additional lands bordering his 590 acre plantation from Fyler, Currel, or Talbird, no record of any such transactions could be located in either Beaufort or Charleston.

Equally confusing is the conveyance of the Hilton Head property at William Seabrook's death in 1836. William's will, proved November 23, 1836 specifies,

Item I give devise and bequeath unto my Dear Wife Elizabeth Emma Seabrook, her heirs and assigns forever my plantation on Hilton Head purchased by me of the Revd. Mr. Wallace (Charleston Probate Court, Will Bk. 41, p. 536.

In addition, Seabrook provided that his wife should have the use of his "Mansion House and Residence" and whatever fields she can plant during her natural life, after which time they would revert to his estate.

Although William Seabrook was an extraordinary wealthy man for his time, with a personal estate worth \$376,916, the inventory of his estate fails to even mention the Hilton Head property (Charleston County Probate Court, Inventory Bk. H, p. 237). Its absence may be related to the property's location in Beaufort, rather than Charleston District, although normally the inventories include all personal property owned by an individual at the time of their death. The inventories do not, however, list real estate. This suggests that the Hilton Head plantation was considered a very minor tract and may have been unoccupied at Seabrook's death. It is clear from his estate papers that his main residence was on John's Island (Seabrook is listed in the 1830 census in St. Johns Parish), although his Edisto Island plantation was a significant economic factor. The Hilton Head tract seems to have been little more than an investment.

Seabrook's wife, Elizabeth Emma, is shown in the St. John's Parish Census reports of 1840 and 1850. In 1840 she was shown with herself and five children in the family, as well as 36 slaves. In addition, the Estate of William Seabrook is also listed with one free person of color and 230 slaves (National Archives 1967). By 1850, Emma is listed, along with her son, John, who is listed as a "planter" (National Archives 1964). It seems that Emma continued to live on the Johns Island plantation,

perhaps with her son managing her affairs as she grew older. There is no record of her ownership or operation of the Hilton Head Plantation. Nor is there any record of the sale of this plantation.

By the 1850 Census, James B. Seabrook (second cousin to William) is shown as a planter in St. Lukes Parish of Beaufort with \$8000 of real estate (National Archives 1964). Prior to this time James was listed in St. Johns Colleton with 95 slaves (National Archives 1967). This suggests that he acquired the plantation from Emma Seabrook sometime between 1840 and 1850. The 1850 Agricultural Schedules show James B. Seabrook with two plantations in St. Lukes Parish. One is listed as 1950 acres, valued at \$20,000, while the other is listed as having only 210 acres (probably more since no figure is shown under the category of "unimproved land" and the property is valued at \$8,000) (S.C. Department of Archives Microcopy 2, Roll 1, pp. 309-310). It is impossible from these records to determine which of the two tracts is "Seabrooks Plantation" on Hilton Head. The one not on Hilton Head was apparently in the Bluffton area.

The 1860 Census lists only one plantation for James B. Seabrook in St. Lukes Parish (S.C. Department of Archives Microcopy 2, Roll 3, pp. 281-282). The tract, consisting of 600 acres improved lands and 560 acres of unimproved lands, is valued at \$15,000 and contained \$1,300 worth of plantation implements. The property, in terms of output and general size is more similar to the larger 1850 plantation. It is shown as having \$5,300 of livestock, including 15 horses, 5 asses or mules, 40 milk cows, 14 oxen, 13 cattle, 32 sheep, and 15 swine. The plantation produced 1800 pounds of corn, 500 pounds of rice (which was one of the largest quantities for the area), 52 bales of cotton, 120 pounds of wool, 500 pounds of peas and beans, 15 bushels of irish potatoes, 2000 bushels sweet potatoes, 500 pounds of butter, 20 tons of hay, 60 pounds of beeswax, and 400 pounds of honey. The plantation slaughtered \$600 worth of animals the previous year. In addition, Seabrook lists orchard products valued at \$100.

If the larger plantation from the 1850 census is the same tract of land as tabulated in the 1860 census (which would indicate that either Emma or James Seabrook purchased considerable additional lands), then it is useful to examine the ten year trend. The milk cow herd declines from the 1850 level of 80 to 40, the 120 head of cattle in 1850 is down to 13 head in 1860, the sheep herd is reduced from 60 to 32, and the 102 swine reported in 1850 is down to only 15 in 1860. The decline in livestock numbers, however, is not reflected in the value placed on the animals. In 1850 the livestock value was \$3,740, while it increased to \$5,300 in 1860. The value of animals slaughtered remained constant at \$600. Curiously, wool production remains constant and butter production increase from 100 pounds in 1850 to 500 pounds in 1860. While the emphasis on livestock declined

from 1850 to 1860, the cotton production increased from 32 bales to 52 bales and rice cultivation was reported in 1860. There is an indication that Seabrook began moving away from livestock toward the cash economy of cotton and rice. The slave population of Seabrook fell from 118 in 1850 to 107 in 1860 (although presumably the 1850 figure reports on two plantations, while the 1860 figure reports on only one) (National Archives 1967).

James B. Seabrook's occupation of the Hilton Head plantation is further supported by the Joseph Baynard Seabrook Bible in the Charleston Museum collections (specimen 34.43). Pasted inside the front cover of the Bible is a handwritten note, signed by E.B. Seabrook and dated November 22, 1872,

This book was the family Bible of my grandfather, Joseph Baynard Seabrook, of Edisto Island, whose name is printed on the cover. After the death of my grandfather, it passed into the hands of his youngest son, James B. Seabrook, who subsequently removed to Hilton Island - During the recent war, after the fall of Fort Walker on Broad River, the book was found by the Federal Soldiers on my uncle's parlor table (transcription in SC Historical Society Collection, File 30-04).

In spite of this, the 1860 census, which lists individuals by smaller enumeration districts than previously, does not list Seabrook among the 11 whites who were found on the island. Of the 11, only one male was listed as a planter, while three others were listed as overseers.

The property was described by several Union soldiers shortly after Hilton Head fell in November 1861:

[w]e mistook the whitewashed huts of the negroes for tents . . . that night we spent in Mr. Seabrook's store, after using the portion of the afternoon that remained to us after our arrival in endeavors to secure some of the cattle, pigs, and poultry (Nichols 1886:66)

[t]he groves of orange trees at Seabrook's plantation were very fragrant, and the ripe fruit was quickly disposed of as contraband of war (Cadwell 1875:29)

they [the Union forces] reached Seabrooks Landing on Mackey's [actually Skull] Creek at about 2 PM. At this point the retreating force had embarked in steamers for Charleston. Here we found fifteen loads of quartermaster's and commissary's supplies and a few small arms. The negroes were jubilant and anxious to sell sweet potatoes and other eatables which had cost them nothing (Walkley 1905:29; see also Eldrige 1893:67)

who describes a similar scene at Seabrooks Landing).

This plantation became a significant focal point of activities on Hilton Head. The main house was used as for military headquarters of various regiments stationed to guard the Skull Creek "frontier" against Confederate intrusion (Culp 1885:97) and eventually Fort Mitchell (38BU1167) was built just to the south of the plantation "to guard against the ravages anticipated from the ram Atlanta" (Bedel 1880:525).

By 1863 the plantation was the location of machine shops and a shipyard used by the Quartermaster's Corps. A period newspaper account revealed,

that there are comparatively few persons in the Department who are aware that on the banks of Skull creek, near Seabrook's Landing, are machine shops, and ship and boat-yards, already second in importance to none south of the Potomac, all the recent growth of a few months. They have sprung up as it were in a single night, under the experienced and vigorous administration of Mr. John H. Mors, Superintending Engineer of the Quarter's Department, under Lt. Col. J.J. Elwell. . . . The necessity has long been held for a properly organized and effective machine shop and ship yard, wherein the repairs to the engines and hulls of the large fleet of transports in government service in the quarter could be expeditiously and thoroughly accomplished. . . . The present location was selected as a proper one for the new machine shop and ship yard, as affording the best facilities for the kind of service just at present demanded. . . . The machine shop is a building put up for temporary purposes about forty feet square, on the edge of the Creek's bank, and is already supplied with all the more important and requisite machinery necessary for the present wants of the service. It has a small steam engine, which supplies the motive power for the entire establishment. . . . Adjoining the machine shop is the Blacksmith's shop, with its forges and blasts, and near it is the Boilermaker's yard where new boilers may be constructed or old ones repaired. . . . Near the machine shop is the shipyard, where ordinary repairs to the hulls of vessels can be made (New South, October 24, 1863, p. 3).

Although the Seabrook machine shops were reported to "exhibit all the energy and vigor of older establishments" and were "as full of promise for the future as the most sanguine could desire" (New South, October 24, 1863, p. 3), by November 1865 a letter was sent to the War Department in Washington requesting information on the disposition of the machinery and materials at

the "government machine shops on Hilton Head." The remnants of the Seabrook machine shops were directed to be sold at a local public auction barely two years after their construction (National Archives, Quartermaster's Consolidated File, RG 92, Box 402).

Seabrook Plantation was also the location of a school for the freedmen operated by the American Missionary Association. Both Charlotte M. Keith and Annie R. Wilkens taught at the school and lived in the plantation house at least in 1866 and 1867. Their letters are in the American Missionary Association files, but have not yet been carefully examined. One letter from Annie Wilkens comments on arriving at the "dirty" Seabrook house on January 19, 1867 (AMA, H-6354), while E. Wright in February 1867 remarks that repairs at Seabrook had been made for the "comfort of the teachers" (AMA, H-6404).

Captain A.P. Ketchum indicates that the machine shops were functional by March 1867, at which time the plantation consisted of "Mansion, Barns & Quarters, Machine Shop." The 1050 acre plantation consisted on 350 acres of cultivated land, 400 acres of woodland, and 300 acres of cleared lands (Monthly Report of Lands, South Carolina, March 1867, SCDAH). The population of Seabrook was listed as 374 individuals in July 1867 (Monthly Report of Lands, South Carolina, July 1867, SCDAH).

The 1862 draft Coast and Geodetic Survey map (Figure 2) clearly shows Seabrook Plantation, revealing the road to the dock, the configuration of the dock, four nearby structures (possibly industrial or storage related), the main house, nine associated structures (possibly house servant quarters, kitchen, smoke house, and so forth), a slave row of five structures (possibly of double pen construction), and six additional structures (possibly representing a second slave row). Portions of this tightly nucleated plantation complex are also shown on a South Carolina District Tax Map for Hilton Head Island, dated 1869 (Figure 3). While the exact placement of the structures is frequently different between the two maps, the structural arrangements are clearly very similar (e.g., a series of four structures south of the "landing road," two additional structures closer to the marsh on the south side of the "landing road," the rows of structures east of the main house area, and the probable main house complex area). The 1869 map also appears to show the 40-foot square machine shop known to have been constructed adjacent to the creek at the landing.

In addition to these maps the January 25, 1862 edition of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper published an engraving of Seabrook Plantation (Figure 4). The early date suggests that the artist's engraving should, if accurate, closely resemble the Coast and Geodetic Map. Comparison of the two show agreements in a number of key points. Both illustrate a "T" shaped dock with

two barns to the south of the "landing road." To the north of the "landing road" is the main house complex, with a enclosing fence which runs south to the road, shown on both the map and the engraving. The slave row, shown on the 1862 map as located east of the main house complex, is (correctly) not visible in the engraving. This suggests that the artist refrained from illustrating concepts (such as slave housing) that were not actually visible from his perspective.

Like other property owners in the rebellious states, Seabrook failed to pay federal taxes on his Hilton Head property and the plantation was confiscated by the United States Government. The property was eventually purchased by the Government. Isabel DeSaussure compiled an "Abstract of Property in the State of South Carolina lost by the Citizens thereof from the War," apparently from claims made to the federal government after the Civil War. This volume lists Seabrook's claims for a "Dwelling House & Lot, Furniture" valued at \$3000 which probably represents a house in Bluffton, 1600 acres of land with no assigned value, 89 slaves, 80 head of cattle, 75 hogs, 15 horses and mules, 90 bales of Sea Island cotton, one "10-oard boat," one "6-oard boat," 34 oars, one flat, two wagons, six carts, and one carriage (South Carolina Historical Society, File 34/309/1-2).

James B. Seabrook lacked the necessary money to redeem the plantation after the Civil War, but the tract was purchased in 1872 for James by attorney R.C. McIntire, apparently with the understanding that it would be paid for over time (Beaufort RMC DB 7, p. 433). In 1873 James Seabrook, still unable to raise the necessary funds, deeded the plantation to McIntire (Beaufort RMC DB 7, p. 448). The property was not divided into smaller plots for Blacks and was passed down largely intact to the twentieth century. McIntire is not listed in the 1880 agricultural census and no significant research has been conducted on the property in the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. The 1944 Fort Fremont 15' topographic map (built on a field survey conducted in 1912 and checked using 1939 aerial photographs shows the tract with two structures, neither of which appear to be in the correct location for the main house. One structure may represent a standing slave cabin, while the other possibly represents a larger farm building.

This brief historical discussion clearly reveals that additional historical research is needed for the property. It may be impossible to develop a complete, or clear, chain of title for the property given the loss of most Beaufort County records. Continued research using locally available sources and expanding into Savannah archives, however, may help determine the increase from 590 acres at William Seabrook's purchase to the 1050 acres at the time of the confiscation. This research may also assist in placing the plantation in a firmer economic framework. Further research also needs to document postbellum activities on the

plantation.

Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques (detailed in Chicora's proposal submitted to and reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office) involved two phases of subsurface survey. The first phase was to be conducted where well drained soils are found adjacent to the poorly drained Williman soils and adjacent to the marsh edge. In these areas shovel tests were to be placed at 50 foot intervals with all soil screened through 1/4-inch mesh. Notes would be retained on stratigraphy and the tests would be immediately backfilled. If archaeological remains were encountered, the spacing of the tests would be decreased to no greater than 25 feet in order to determine site boundaries, site integrity, and temporal periods represented.

The second phase was to involve those areas interior from the marsh edge where shovel tests would be placed along lines perpendicular to the shore at intervals no greater than 100 feet. These tests would also be screened through 1/4-inch mesh. The primary purpose of this second phase was to determine loci within the plantation complex. As in Phase 1, when cultural materials were encountered, the sampling interval was to be decreased to 25 feet for additional refinement.

All shovel tests would measure 1-foot square and would be excavated to sterile yellow B horizon sand. All cultural remains, except brick, shell, mortar, and coal, would be retained. Samples of the other material would be retained. The information required for S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected in the field and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigator.

These plans were put into effect, with minor exceptions. Prior to Phase 1 a portion of a day was spent relocating previously recorded sites and accurately locating these sites on the development base map. During Phase 1 it was discovered that intensive testing in and adjacent to areas of Williman soil was unproductive. These soils were noticeably low and wet causing difficulty in screening. We increased our sampling scheme to intervals of 100 feet which allowed us to emphasize those areas of the plantation more suitable to prehistoric and historic settlement. During Phase 2 we discovered that artifact density was sufficiently great in the plantation area that our interval was increased from 25 feet to 50 feet throughout. This system allowed excellent coverage of the plantation area.

What amounted to a third phase of investigations was added to explore in greater detail the large area of fill on the tract. A total of 30 shovel tests (21 of which were screened) were excavated to document the extent of fill and its depth. In

addition, the work was designed to identify a second slave row thought to be situated on the north edge of the property. As previously discussed, the fill area was found to cover 10 acres and fill varied from about 1 foot to 4 feet in depth. Prior to dumping this spoil the original topsoil or A horizon appears to have been removed.

A total of 208 shovel tests were excavated throughout the survey tract, including 30 in the fill area and 20 along the north edge of the tract. The remaining 158 were placed around the western and southern edge of the fill in the area of the plantation occupation. The shovel tests revealed variable stratigraphy which will be discussed on a site-specific basis. In those areas of well drained soils which did not exhibit cultural remains the stratigraphy typically consisted of a brown sandy A horizon up to 0.9 foot in depth overlying an indistinct leach zone up to 0.3 foot in depth. Below the light brown to tan sand leach zone was yellow to very light brown sand. Natural concretions are typical in the subsoil and were often found in the tests. Areas of poorly drained Williman soils exhibited a black to dark gray surface soil overlying a light gray sand found about a foot below the surface. These soils were consistently moist.

In addition to the shovel tests, the marsh and beach areas, the ditch banks, and the dirt roads were thoroughly examined, although large surface collections were not made at any locus. This study emphasized site evaluation with minimal disturbance to the archaeological remains.

Laboratory Methods

The cleaning of artifacts was conducted on Hilton Head during the field survey. The cataloging and analysis of the specimens was conducted at the Chicora laboratories in Columbia from May 7-9, 1988. The collections have been accepted for permanent curation by The Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island as Accession Number 1988.4. In addition, all original field notes and archival copies of the field notes will be curated with the collections. All photographic materials have been processed to archival standards.

Artifacts requiring conservation have been treated at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia. The ferrous specimens, all of which were classified as sound metal, were subjected to electrolytic reduction in a bath of sodium carbonate solution with currents no greater than 5 volts for periods not expected to exceed 10 days. When all visible corrosion is removed, the artifacts will be wire brushed and placed in a series of deionized water soaks to remove soluble chlorides. When the artifacts test free of chloride they will be oven dried, coated with phosphoric acid (10%) and tannic acid (20%). Once dry they

will receive a microcrystalline coating. All copper and brass specimens were evaluated for conservation needs and two specimens which exhibited active corrosion were treated using electrolytic reduction in a sodium carbonate solution with a current of 4.5 volts for 10 hours. Afterwards, the specimens received short deionized water soaks to remove surface chlorides, were dried in acetone baths, and were coated with a 10% solution of Incralac in toluene. Conservation treatments are expected to be completed within a month; artifacts and field records will be transported to the Hilton Head Museum at that time. Packing and cataloging comply with the institution's standards.

Analysis of the collections followed professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. Prehistoric ceramics were classified using common south coastal types (DePratter 1979; Trinkley 1983). The temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of the historic remains follow Noel Hume (1970), Miller (1980), Price (1979), and South (1977).

Results

This project resulted in the revisiting and shovel testing of four previously recorded sites (38BU337, 38BU821, 38BU822, and 38BU323/1149), and the identification of two additional sites (38BU939 and 38BU940; only the former is actually within the survey area) (Figure 5). One site, 38BU323/1149, was found to consist of a number of loci and to have agricultural features which were not specifically recorded by number. Another site, 38BU337, was found to represent a locus of 38BU323/1149, but the original numbering was retained for simplicity. Sites forms for each site (including those previously recorded) have been submitted to the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Site 38BU821 was originally recorded during the 1986 reconnaissance survey of Hilton Head Island (Trinkley 1987) and was described as two small loci of shell midden eroding into the marsh. Although no artifacts were recovered, additional study was recommended to determine cultural affiliation and site boundaries. Upon re-examination only one significant erosional area could be identified and a series of 18 shovel tests were excavated to determine areal extent of the site. Nine of these tests produced a total of 21 artifacts and seven revealed dense shell midden. This midden, up to 1.2 feet in depth, contains primarily oyster, although small quantities of clam, mussel, and whelk were observed.

Artifacts at the site reveal Early through Late Woodland occupation (ca. 500 B.C. through A.D. 1200). Materials include five Deptford Cord Marked, two UID Deptford sherds, two Mount Pleasant Cord Marked, one Mount Pleasant Fabric Impressed, one Mount Pleasant UID, one St. Catherines Cord Marked, two Savannah

Check Stamped, one Savannah Complicated Stamped, two UID sherds, two fragments of daub, and two cut nails (probably from nearby 38BU323/1149). The assemblage reveals mixing of site components, although the shovel tests did not demonstrate post-deposition disturbance (excepting erosion).

The site covers an area about 350 feet by 150 feet, with a site core of about 150 by 150 feet based on shell midden density. The site is on a natural peninsula of heavy hardwood vegetation and natural site boundaries are found to the north, northwest, and east. The boundary to the south was established by the absence of cultural material and rapidly diminishing amounts of shell. The site appears intact except for minor erosion along the north facing marsh frontage and a probable plantation ditch which has been cut along the site's southern boundary. This ditch, however, has exposed a shell pit, measuring about 2.5 feet in width and about 1.5 feet in depth. Soils are the well drained Seabrook sands.

The intact deposits of dense shell, the relative abundance of pottery for coastal sites of this type, the evidence that subsurface features will be present, all argue for the significance of this site. While a number of sites of this type have been recorded on Hilton Head or nearby islands, only a small handful have been professionally investigated. At the present time we have little information on how these sites fit into the larger framework of Woodland Period settlement or subsistence patterns. Most of the coastal research has emphasized reconnaissance surveys which fail to provide the necessary temporal, subsistence, and intra-site patterning data. It is my opinion that this site is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Since the site covers a relatively large area of prime marsh frontage, it is unlikely that avoidance is a feasible alternative. If satisfactory green spacing or protective easements are not possible, excavation of the site is possible. The research design for the site should emphasize obtaining a valid sample of all site areas while ensuring that complete subsistence data is gathered.

Site 38BU822 was also recorded during the 1986 reconnaissance survey of the island (Trinkley 1987) and was identified as a small shell midden which might represent a Civil War military sentry post. A small quantity of mid-nineteenth century bottle glass was collected from the site, which was found isolated on a point of high ground overlooking a tidal creek on the north edge of the property. Additional work was recommended for this site since neither boundaries nor site integrity could be determined during the survey.

Additional studies, including the placement of four shovel

tests, revealed that the site covers an area about 50 feet along the bank and no more than 25 feet inland. Although there is evidence of considerable erosion at high tides, this site was probably never much larger than seen at present. The shovel tests yielded only a single sherd, identified as St. Catherines and no additional historic materials were observed on the beach. Vegetation is primarily oak and the soils are the well drained Seabrook Series.

The site appears to represent a small, mixed deposit of both prehistoric and historic remains with very little integrity. Although both prehistoric and historic sites of this type are potentially significant cultural resources capable of telling us much about past lifeways, better preserved sites are found elsewhere on the survey tract. As a result, this site is evaluated to be not eligible for inclusion on the National Register and no further investigations are recommended.

Site 38BU323/1149 may also be referred to as Seabrook Plantation. The site was first recorded as 38BU323 by Michie (1980) and was described simply as an eroded occupational area having both prehistoric and historic remains. During the 1986 reconnaissance survey of the island for the Town of Hilton Head Island, Chicora revisited the site and recognized it as the location of Seabrook Plantation, noting that it represented "one of the few remaining undeveloped plantation tracts; the site is also the location of a major Hilton Head Island landing and a major Union outpost with a ship repair facility" (SCIAA 38BU323 site form, on file). The site was identified as potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register, although both archival research and additional survey was thought to be necessary to establish the site's eligibility. Site number 38BU1149 has been erroneously applied to the site by the Lowcountry Council of Governments (1979:84). Rather than attempt to correct the site numbering problem, both numbers are cross referenced to indicate this site.

This site is well documented and is known, based on period maps, to be situated on the survey "peninsula." This archaeological survey, as previously discussed, was oriented toward determining site boundaries, assessing site integrity, and revealing specific plantation loci. All three goals were approached using intensive shovel testing at an interval of 50 feet. Over 150 shovel tests were excavated in the plantation area and the final boundaries were largely established on the basis of these tests. Most shovel tests revealed A or Ap horizon soil up to 1.0 foot overlying yellow sand, with moderate quantities of shell, brick, and mortar found. In addition, coal was locally abundant, probably scattered from the military shipyard activities. Several tests revealed locally dense shell midden and one test revealed probable in situ architectural remains.

The plantation is situated in areas of hardwood vegetation and planted pines, although there is compelling evidence that the bulk of the site was at one time cleared. The soils are almost exclusively the well drained Seabrook Series, although some occupation apparently took place on the less well drained Williman soils. The site boundaries begin at the northern point of the tract, immediately west of 38BU822, and extend southeast to encompass the large field of planted pines west of the fill area. The fill is not included in the site boundaries, although it seems likely that the original occupation extended into this area. The site boundary extends south-southwest, along the edge of the poorly drained Williman soils to the southwestern edge of the fill, where the boundary turns southeast and extends to the southern edge of the property. The total site area is approximately 700 by 900 feet or about 14 acres. Within that area, however, are several clear loci.

The various surface collections have previously identified the beach or landing as an area of dense cultural remains. Michael Taylor (personal communication 1988) reports that several years ago numbers of intact bottles were recovered from the eroding marsh grass and beach face. It appears that 20 to 50 feet of the site has eroded since the mid-nineteenth century. This extensive erosion makes green spacing of this portion of the site less than desirable. The beach area includes evidence of the ship repair facilities, including extensive timber systems and a series of successive docks. Some of these features were quickly plotted during this survey. In addition, the erosion has cut into at least two areas of structural remains, most notably 38BU337. While this was given a site number by Michie (1980), it is now recognized as part of the larger Seabrook plantation complex. The locus represents the erosional remains of a tabby structure, now found completely on the beach associated with abundant brick. Regrettably, this tabby has been too damaged for architectural evaluation or recovery. Additional architectural remains (primarily bricks) are found at the landing and probably represent a destroyed shoreline structure.

A series of five above ground middens have been found on the Seabrook Plantation site. Midden 1 is situated about 300 feet inland from the landing and 50 feet north of the southern marsh edge. The midden consists of abundant shell and coal fragments and may be associated with the military occupation of the site. Middens 2 and 3 have been cut through by a relatively modern drainage ditch running parallel to the southern property edge. These midden are probably associated with the southern slave row shown on the 1862 map. Structural remains may be found under the spoil from this ditch. Midden 4 is situated adjacent to the marsh at the southern edge of the site. It is tentatively identified as a military sentry post, although it may represent a freedmen's camp. Although the site has been recently damaged by site vandals, it is more worthy of investigation than 38BU822.

Finally, Midden 5 is found inland from the marsh on the northern boundary of the site. This locus consists of a small area of disintegrating tabby and a pile of soil and brick rubble. Several shovel tests in the immediate area failed to identify additional subsurface remains, but the above ground remains are unusual.

Four broad areas of the site were initially designated as SS5, SS8, SS9, and SS10 during the field work. These designations are still useful to indicate specific site areas. SS5, situated immediately west of Midden 5 on the north edge of the property, is a small prehistoric concentration that has been only imperfectly defined. SS8 represents the central site area which was planted in pines about 20 years ago. This area represents the main house area and possibly a kitchen structure. SS9 is the designation given the fill area adjacent to the site boundary where the northern slave row should have been identified. As previously discussed, intensive shovel tests (two 100 foot lines 50 feet apart with tests at 20 foot intervals) failed to recover any convincing evidence of the slave row. Fill up to 4 feet in depth was encountered and removed for each test. It appears that the site was destroyed as topsoil was removed prior to depositing spoil. SS10 is that area southeast of the landing and south of SS8 and the fill area. This area represents the southern slave row and possible support structures. Shovel tests revealed evidence of in situ architectural remains and at least one additional concentration of architectural remains.

The shovel tests in Locus SS10 also identified the remains of two tabby chimneys, identified as Structures 1 and 2. Both are in good condition, although Structure 2 has an oak growing in it which needs to be removed. Both chimney footings are oriented approximately N45°W and measure about 6 feet in length on the exterior, with fire boxes about 4 feet in length and about 2 to 4 feet in depth. Their height above grade varies from 0.2 to about 1.5 feet. Structure 1 is associated with a series of five shell middens to the south and southeast within a distance of 35 feet. Each midden is from 6 to 8 feet in diameter and up to about 1.5 feet above grade.

Analysis of the collections from Seabrook have combined similar loci to create larger and more reliable samples. The artifact pattern from loci SS8 and SS9 is shown in Table 1. These areas (primarily SS8) should represent the main house area. The analysis indicates that Kitchen Artifacts dominate the collection, accounting for 69.7% of the total, while Architectural Artifacts account for 21.6% of the total. This collection does not clearly fit any previously defined pattern, although it is similar to both the Revised Carolina Artifact (Garrow 1982) and the Carolina Slave Artifact Pattern (Garrow 1982). Because of the relatively high percentages of Furniture, Tobacco, and Activities artifacts, the pattern tends toward the

Revised Carolina Artifact Pattern. Additional work at the site is necessary to evaluate this assessment and determine why the architectural remains are not more common (alternately, the quantity of kitchen remains may be inflated by the possible kitchen structure).

The collections from SS10 also fail to neatly correspond to any previously established patterns, including the Georgia Slave Artifact Pattern (Singleton 1980). The remains, however, are similar to the trends observed at Mitchelville, a freedmen's village on Hilton Head (Trinkley 1986). Additional work in this area will also be required to more fully understand the observed patterns.

While neither collection fits previously defined patterns, the Seabrook Plantation is unusual in the intensity of Civil War and possibly postbellum occupation. It seems likely that the relatively sporadic antebellum occupation at Seabrook Plantation was quickly swamped by the intensive military and freedmen occupation during the Civil War. Although the antebellum slave population barely topped 100 prior to the Civil War, over 300 freedmen lived on the plantation during the late 1860s. In one sense, this mixing of occupations represents the greatest challenge to research at Seabrook. Such research, however, is essential to better understand the Black social and economic response to freedom.

The mean ceramic dates (South 1977) are detailed for the two areas in Table 2. The main house area (SS8) yields a mean ceramic date of 1814.9, while the southern slave row (SS10) yields a date of 1851.9. The relatively early date for the main house area is somewhat unexpected and suggests that a plantation settlement existed prior to William Seabrook's purchase of the land in 1833. The early date also suggests that there was, at best, limited occupation of the plantation by high status whites in the nineteenth century. This conclusion is supported by a number of historic sources, such as the census data and observations by the American Missionary Association teachers on the rustic, even primitive, "mansions" found on Hilton Head Island. The mean ceramic date for the SS10 area is consistent with its use from the early nineteenth century through the military occupation on the island.

In summary, the Seabrook Plantation site appears to represent significant archaeological and architectural remains dating from the early through mid-nineteenth century. There is a great deal of historic documentation for the plantation, given the sad condition of Beaufort County records. The archaeological remains reveal intact midden and architectural features indicative of good site integrity. The only area of the site not amenable to further investigations is the northern slave row

<u>Kitchen</u>		
Ceramics	52	
Bottle glass	95	
Colono ware	12	
Utensil handle	1	
Kettle frag	1	
	<hr/>	
	161	69.7%
<u>Architecture</u>		
Cut nails	38	
UID nails	1	
Window glass	11	
	<hr/>	
	50	21.6%
<u>Furniture</u>		
Chimney glass	1	
Tack	1	
	<hr/>	
	2	0.9%
<u>Arms</u>		
Gun flint spall	1	
	<hr/>	
	1	0.4%
<u>Clothing</u>		
Button	1	
	<hr/>	
	1	0.4%
<u>Personal</u>		
Brass winding key	1	
	<hr/>	
	1	0.4%
<u>Tobacco</u>		
Kaolin pipe stem/ bowl	10	
	<hr/>	
	10	4.3%
<u>Activities</u>		
UID iron	2	
Brass nail	1	
Melted lead	1	
Spike	1	
	<hr/>	
	5	2.2%
 TOTAL		
	231	

Table 1. Artifact pattern analysis for loci SS8 and SS9.

<u>Kitchen</u>		
Ceramics	8	
Bottle glass	36	
Colono ware	2	
Container frag	2	
Kettle frags	<u>2</u>	
	51	36.7%
<u>Architecture</u>		
Cut nails	43	
UID nails	1	
Window glass	<u>28</u>	
	72	51.8%
<u>Arms</u>		
.32 shell	<u>1</u>	
	1	0.7%
<u>Clothing</u>		
Buttons	<u>3</u>	
	3	2.2%
<u>Tobacco</u>		
Kaolin pipe stem/ bowl	<u>2</u>	
	2	1.4%
<u>Activities</u>		
UID iron	2	
Brass strap	1	
Wire	1	
Strap metal	1	
Spike	<u>1</u>	
	10	7.2%
TOTAL		
	139	

Table 2. Artifact pattern analysis for locus SS10.

Ceramic	Mean Date	Quantity		Product	
		SS8	SS10*	SS8	SS10
Lead glazed slipware	1733	1	-	1733	-
Creamware, undec.	1791	4	-	7164	-
Pearlware, undec.	1805	16	-	28880	-
edged	1805	2	-	3610	-
annular	1805	-	1	-	1805
blue hp	1800	2	-	3600	-
blue tp	1818	7	1	12726	1818
Whiteware, undec.	1860	4	8	7440	14880
edged	1853	1	-	1853	-
annular	1866	-	1	-	1866
blue tp	1848	1	-	1848	-
non-blue tp	1851	1	1	1851	1851
Yellow ware	1853	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	3706	3706
		41	14	74411	25926

$$74411 \div 41 = 1814.9$$

$$25926 \div 14 = 1851.9$$

*including collections from the landing and Middens 1-4

Table 3. Mean ceramic dates for Seabrook Plantation.

which appears to have been destroyed by grading and fill activities. The site's long and varied history makes this plantation one of the more important sites on Hilton Head. The site is recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places at a national level of significance (largely because of the importance of the site to the military and because it served as a major housing area for freedmen during the war years).

As previously discussed, green spacing is not the preferred alternative for those portions of the site subject to continued erosion. This erosion will not only continue to damage the site, but will probably encourage eventual land owners to install sea walls. The proximity to deep water may also create an additional demand for dock facilities. Other areas of the site may be suitable for green spacing or protection through easements. Such an approach, however, must be closely monitored since site vandalism has already occurred at the chimney footings and shell middens. Excavations at specific loci within the site may be the preferred mitigation alternative. Such excavations have the potential for exploring both plantation era and freedmen questions. In addition, the potential exists for the recovery of abundant plantation period subsistence remains. Excavations at Seabrook would represent the first professional investigation of a Hilton Head Plantation and might represent the first published investigations in Beaufort County.

Site 38BU337 is briefly discussed in the above section on Seabrook Plantation since it represents a locus within the plantation complex. Although the site has been extensively damaged by erosion it is classified as eligible since it must be considered within the context of the larger Seabrook Plantation.

Site 38BU939 is a single, small shell midden exposed in a ditch bank at the north edge of the tract. A series of three shovel tests placed around the site failed to identify either shell or cultural remains adjacent to the midden. The site size is placed at 10 by 20 feet and it appears that the bulk of the site was destroyed by the ditch excavation. No artifacts were collected from the site and its temporal period is unknown. It is spatially distinct from both the prehistoric shell midden (38BU821) situated to the east and the prehistoric/historic mixed midden (38BU822) located to the west.

This site is recommended as not eligible given its small size, the absence of cultural remains, and the likelihood that any data it might contribute would be better obtained from a more intact site. No further work is recommended at this site.

Summary of Site Significance and Conclusions

It is generally accepted that "the significance of an

archaeological site is based on the potential of the site to contribute to the scientific or humanistic understanding of the past" (Bense et al. 1986:60). If a site exhibits integrity (i.e., it is likely that the site has not been extensively disturbed by development, erosion, agriculture, etc.) it is likely that it may address at least some research questions and contribute information, but to be eligible the contribution should be significant. As a result of this study, sites 38BU821, 38BU323/1149, and 38BU337 (as part of 38BU323/1149) are judged to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, with Seabrook Plantation (38BU323/1149) recommended as eligible at a national level of significance.

Seabrook Plantation was a working plantation at least by the 1840s, although the archaeological evidence strongly suggests that it may have been active during the late eighteenth century. Although Seabrook was a profitable tract, it was probably not the main residence of its owners. At the time of the Civil War the plantation had not only a main house and a slave row, but also a number of additional structures, including a store. The plantation saw use as headquarters for a number of regiments, sentry posts, and eventually as ship repair facilities for the Quartermaster's Corps. It was also used by the American Missionary Association as a freedmen's school and was occupied by blacks at least until 1873. After that the property's history is currently obscured in postbellum land acquisitions. Research at the site may concentrate on the antebellum plantation activities, freedmen occupation, military use of the tract, and the ship repair facilities. Specific attention should be paid to the tabby features, which may require architectural documentation in addition to archaeological excavation. Avoidance of some plantation areas, through green spacing or preservation easements may be viable alternative to excavation.

The prehistoric site, 38BU821, represents a large and well preserved shell midden. Like many other coastal shell middens occupational evidence of several temporal periods was recovered. In spite of this mixing the site has the potential to contribute information on prehistoric settlement and subsistence patterns. This site is recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register at a state level of significance.

In spite of the intensity of this survey, archaeological remains may be encountered during development activities. Construction crews should be advised to report any concentrations of brick rubble, obvious artifacts (such as bottles or ceramics), or concentrations of shell to the project planner, who should report the find to the S.C. State Historic Preservation Office or the developer's archaeologist. No construction should take place in the vicinity of such late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist.

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